

### **DISEASE INFORMATION**

**Summary – Week 10 – Ending 03/014/09** – Disease reports received at DPHHS during the reporting period March 8-14, 2009 included the following conditions: various enteric conditions [campylobacteriosis, cryptosporidiosis, giardiasis, salmonellosis], meningococcal disease, invasive *Streptococcus pneumoniae* infection and varicella. The two unrelated meningococcal disease cases occurred in Cascade (15 y/o) and Gallatin (19 y/o) counties; both have recovered. *NOTE: The spreadsheet has multiple pages, each indicated by a tab in the bottom left corner. Tabs on the worksheet reflect the following: (1) vaccine preventable and enteric diseases YTD; (2) other communicable diseases; (3) cases just this week; (4) clusters and outbreaks; and (5) an STD summary.*

**Influenza Surveillance – As of 03/14/09, Montana's influenza activity is WIDESPREAD.** As of 03/20/09 there were 193 MPHL PCR confirmed cases that had been typed (41% A:H1, 21.2% A:H3 and 37.8% B). All three subtypes continue to be isolated. Subtype information by county and month is attached and is also available at <http://cdepi.hhs.mt.gov>.

There are a few isolates for which we have received results from the CDC on antiviral susceptibility testing: one A:H3 is resistant to adamantanes; all the A:H1s are resistant to oseltamivir; and all the Bs are all susceptible to both oseltamivir and zanamivir. This is completely consistent with the national resistance data. Recommendations for the use of antiviral medications can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/index.htm>.

Several clusters of influenza have been identified in schools. The following link may provide useful information: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/>

***NEW!*** Nationally, activity is decreasing; however, the season has seen an increase in the proportion of influenza B viruses, the one type of flu that is not very well-matched by this year's vaccine. Of 210 type B viruses that have been antigenically tested by the CDC this season, only 44 belonged to the Yamagata lineage targeted by the B strain in this year's vaccine. The other 166 isolates belonged to the Victoria lineage and are not related to the vaccine. However, all the A/H1N1 and A/H3N2 isolates tested so far have been related to the corresponding strains in the vaccine. National weekly updates about influenza: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

***NEW!*** **Norovirus Activity** – Norovirus activity, measured as positive PCR testing by the Montana Public Health Laboratory, is attached.

### **INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***NEW!*** **Tuberculosis Awareness** - Tuesday, March 24, is World TB Day, the annual event that commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of the bacteria that causes TB. This event provides an opportunity to communicate TB-associated problems and solutions and to support worldwide tuberculosis control efforts. In the United States, the theme for World TB Day 2009 is "Partnerships for TB Elimination." [Learn more](#) about World TB Day. TB in Montana: <http://tb.hhs.mt.gov>.

**Case Investigation Resources** – Check out the following resources for assisting you with communicable disease case investigations:

- ☐ Manual for the Surveillance of Vaccine Preventable Diseases  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/surv-manual/>  
Sign up for the automatic email updates when this online manual changes!
- ☐ CDC / CSTE Surveillance Case Definitions  
[http://www.cdc.gov/ncphi/disss/nndss/casedef/case\\_definitions.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncphi/disss/nndss/casedef/case_definitions.htm)

**HIV/Hepatitis/STD Training** - Integrated HIV/Hepatitis/STD trainings will be offered (free) to public and private healthcare professionals in and around the areas of Glasgow, Havre and Kalispell during the week of May 11 – 15, 2009. Please see the attached letter and training registration form for more information. For more information: Laurie Kops, [lkops@mt.gov](mailto:lkops@mt.gov), 406.444.2457.

**Rabies** – Winter usually brings a decrease in animal exposures and cases of rabies in animals; however, this year we have continued to confirm cases in animals through the winter. There have been eight quarantines related to animals with rabies so far in 2009. Five counties are currently under quarantine: Dawson, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Lewis & Clark, and Yellowstone. Counties are quarantined when rabies is confirmed in a terrestrial animal such as a dog, cat, skunk or fox. All unvaccinated dogs, cats and ferrets in quarantined counties must be vaccinated a minimum of two weeks prior to any travel outside the quarantined county.

- ☐ All animal bites should be reported to the LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT. *Please make sure that local emergency rooms, urgent care clinics and providers have local 24/7/365 contact information.*
- ☐ State CDEpi personnel are available at (406) 444-0273 24/7/365 for consultation regarding post-exposure prophylaxis and to release password for *Imovax only* as needed.
- ☐ As a reminder, a revised version of the rabies algorithm is attached.
- ☐ The rabies vaccination situation has not changed since October, with Imovax (Sanofi Pasteur) still requiring password release for PEP.

#### **VACCINE SITUATION (3/20/09)**

	<b>Pre-Exposure (PreEP)</b>	<b>Post-Exposure (PEP)</b>
<b>Imovax (Sanofi Pasteur)</b> 1-800-VACCINE	Not Available	<u>Password Release and Completion of Sanofi Form</u> – Contact CD Epi (444-0274) to discuss situation and obtain password
<b>Rabavert (Novartis)</b> 1-800-244-7668	<input type="checkbox"/> Available for higher occupational exposure risk groups (rabies diagnostic lab workers, veterinary staff, animal control, wildlife workers) – can be ordered through the Novartis wholesale distributor ( <u>no need for password or form</u> ) <input type="checkbox"/> NOT available for general use (e.g., travelers)	<u>No password required</u>

Please refer to the most recent CDC Rabies website update for the latest information regarding the supply status: [www.cdc.gov/rabies](http://www.cdc.gov/rabies).

#### **REMINDERS**

**24/7 Availability** – Did you know that the Epidemiology program has a phone line that is answered 24 hours a day/7days a week/365 days a year? Please call 406.444.0273 if you need immediate epidemiology assistance or consultation! The answering service will take a message and we will return the call as quickly as possible.

*This newsletter is produced by the Montana Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program. Questions regarding its content should be directed to 406.444.0273 (24/7/365). For more information: <http://cdepi.hhs.mt.gov>.*